

London & Southern Counties Minerals Industries Institute



ANNUAL REPORT OF COUNCIL - YEAR ENDING 30th JUNE 2022

The Council of the London & Southern Counties Minerals Industries Institute (MinSouth) has pleasure in presenting its Report for the 2021-2022 session, ending 30th June 2022.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

President:	Simon Kocher
Vice Presidents:	Colin Morrish Richard Roethe
Honorary Treasurer:	Paul Griffin
Honorary Secretary:	Clive Hallett
Membership:	Andrew Hindmarch
Sponsorship:	Sue Struthers
Communications:	Colin Morrish
Web:	Mike McLoughlin

Continuing Past Presidents:

Mike McLoughlin	2021
Sue Struthers	2020
Stuart MacGowan	2019
Roger Emmott	2017

Elected Councillors:

Robert Bacon
Gavin Bowyer
Geoff Hooper
Alan Stainer
Iain Duncan
Alan Bozeat
Mark Burnett
Mark Davis
Ian Jackson
Andrew Hindmarch
Isobel Mackay
Alex Norori-McCormac

Co-opted Councillors:

John Monhemius
Michael Forrest

Councillors Resigned During Year:

None

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

While the first half of 2021/22 was still affected by Covid 19, making physical meetings too much of a risk, the second half saw the return of in-person meetings. To make meetings more accessible and to engage with a wider audience all in-person meetings were also streamed live on the internet and all presentations were recorded and uploaded to the MinSouth website (MinSouth.org.uk). Four lunch-time Snap meetings, introduced the previous year, were organised by Mike McLoughlin. To improve our digital infrastructure several items were bought during the year, including a better microphone, webcam and a laptop.

Unfortunately, our planned joint physical meeting with the British Tunnelling Society at The Institution of Civil Engineers had to be cancelled due to Covid. This was replaced by an online meeting with a presentation on the "Untapped mining potential of Afghanistan". The Young Persons Lecture Competition heat held online this year attracted a good number of abstract submissions, although unfortunately none from Camborne School of Mines, covering a wide range of mining-related topics. The heat was won by Martha Needs (Knight Piesold) presenting on Reducing the Risk of Legacy Tailings Facilities.

The joint Women in Mining-MinSouth meeting was held at the "Mine" in IOM3 headquarters with Dr Ana Santos (NHM) presenting on bio recovery of metals from mine wastes. Other presentations during the year focused on various aspects of domestic resources supply in a changing economy. A particular highlight this year was the prestige lecture on "Lithium potential in Cornwall" delivered by Lucy Crane (Cornish Lithium). Not only was Lucy the first female delivering the MinSouth prestige lecture, she was also the first presenter having previously received student support. Once again, our most enjoyable Christmas Quiz was held online. The questions were devised by Julian Aldridge and presented by Clive Hallett, our Quiz Master for the evening. The winner was the group "The No-Clues".

All events were advertised online through various channels (i.e. Twitter, LinkedIn, MinSouth website, email) by our Communications Officer Colin Morrish, Mike McLoughlin and our Student Liaison Officer Richard Roethe. Physical attendance was, at times, lower than expected, however, due to the talks being streamed online virtual attendance remained high. Our Treasurer Paul Griffin monitored attendance numbers through Eventbrite registrations and other means to ensure continued financial support from IOM3 for this year and following years.

MinSouth remains committed to providing financial support to students enrolled in relevant courses and has presented awards to three promising students from Southampton, RSM and CSM. Further financial support was given to the Ecton mine to aid the acquisition of hardhats and head torches for visitors.

In an environment of rising costs MinSouth finances are and will remain tight. Alternative meeting venues might be required in future unless further income can be generated. It is also essential to identify and approach new potential sponsors to secure our ongoing ability to provide student support.

To maintain MinSouth's relevance as a learned society it is of utmost importance that we redefine our mission and explore new avenues to share our knowledge and expertise by providing training for students and young professionals, forming new strategic partnerships and by becoming more diverse. With our new committed young councillors, I have every confidence that this transition will be successful.

I would like to thank all members of council for their time and effort during the past year. Without the help of these individuals MinSouth would not be functional and I am very grateful for their assistance during the past year. I would also like to thank Gavin Bowyer and Professor Alan Stainer who have indicated their intent to resign from council after many years of service.

For the coming 2022/23 term I wish the new president Colin Morrish every success.

MEMBERSHIP:

The Society is an Affiliated Society to the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IoM3). Most attendees to the Society events are IoM3 members who have elected to be notified of Society events. In addition, there are a number of affiliate members who have joined MinSouth directly and are not members of IoM3.

MEETINGS:

General Meetings:

The MinSouth AGM was held online on Monday 14th October 2021 where Simon Kocher was appointed President.

In addition to 8 evening technical meetings and 1 social event (quiz) there were 4 lunchtime “Snap” sessions held during the year. These included joint events held with Women in Mining (May), as well as the Young Persons Lecture Competition (March).

Average attendance for the top 8 technical meetings was 54 persons (65 - 2020/21). The programme was again disrupted by the COVID pandemic with 3 of the technical meetings having to be on-line only. However, the remaining 5 were run as hybrid meetings with both physical and virtual attendance. It is intended to continue with this format for the future.

The MinSouth presentations in 2021/22 were:

Oct:	Gold Exploration in Wales	Mike Armitage
Nov:	Lithium Potential in the UK	Dr Robin Armstrong
Dec:	Mining Quiz	
Jan:	Critical Minerals in a Circular Economy	Prof Richard Herrington
Feb:	Afghanistan Untapped Mining Potential	Ismail Amin
Mar:	Young Persons Lecture Competition	
Apr:	Past, Present and Future of the Milldam Mine	Peter Robinson
May:	Microbiology technologies for extraction of metals from mine wastes	Dr Ana Santos
June:	Lithium Potential in Cornwall	Lucy Crane

The “Snap” lunchtime presentations were:

Jul:	AI and Machine Vision for Safety in Operations	Joe Carr
Nov:	Diversity in Mining: An Indigenous Female’s Perspective	Kari Lentowicz
Mar:	Life cycle assessment approach to mining projects	Dr Robert Pell
Apr:	Using fibre optic cables to monitor tailings dams	Glynn Williams

The Council expresses thanks to all authors for their time and effort spent in preparing and presenting papers at MinSouth events. It is recognised that pressure of work leaves little free time for such voluntary, learned society contributions.

Young Persons’ Lecture Competition:

The local heat of the Young Persons’ Lecture Competition was held online. The selected presentations were:

Martha Needs	Reducing the Risk of Legacy Tailings Facilities
Manvir Dhillon	How does Lithium mining contribute to domestic water shortages in Northern Chile

John Morley Demand for Minerals & Metals for the Green Energy Transition: A Wicked Problem?

David Coulton Backfill Design: Engineering Waste for Sustainable Mining

The winner was Martha Needs who received a £200 cheque. The runners-up received £100 each.

Council expresses thanks to all the student representatives for encouraging submissions. Also, for the ongoing support from Golder Associates and Saint Barbara LLP who not only financially support the event but also provided expert judges for the evening.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:

Mining Quiz:

A mining themed quiz was again held in December.

Mining Sundowner:

Although the Sundowner is not formally a MinSouth event, it has traditionally been supported by MinSouth members. It is on the last Thursday of every month. Physical attendance was disrupted due to the pandemic, but physical meetings recommenced in the year. Thanks are due to organising committee which includes Michael Forrest representing MinSouth.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Web Site:

The web site provides comprehensive information and news on MinSouth activities. The site has now been updated and moved to a new server. The Council expresses its thanks to Mike McLoughlin for his help with the new site.

Social Networking:

The move to the use of online presentations during the year has also resulted in a significant increase in use of social media. During the year there were 2,587 views of recorded presentations compared with 1,128 the year before. The MinSouth LinkedIn site has 567 members (541 2020/21) and Twitter account with 731 followers (771 2020/21).

COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Ten Council Meetings were held during the year. These are held before the General Meeting each month. There was an additional meeting in September 2021.

FUNDING:

The IoM3 sponsored the society a total of £3,225 in 2021/22 (£1,538 - 2020/21)

MinSouth received corporate sponsorship of £3,800 in 2021/22 (£4,150 - 2020/21)

Gold:

Bara Consulting
CSA Global

Silver:

Knight Piesold
Auramet
Behre Dolbear

Bronze:

SP Angel

MinSouth is most grateful to the IOM3 and all sponsors for their ongoing support. This sponsorship allows MinSouth to pursue its objective of supporting the education and development of the next generation of mining professionals.

The Council wish to thank Sue Struthers as Sponsorship Secretary for her efforts in engaging with our sponsors.

SCHOOLS PROGRAMME:

MinSouth continued its educational support through the year. Specifically, this involved maintaining contact with the Earth Science Teachers Association, (ESTA) and including information and teaching materials for both teachers and students on the MinSouth website.

STUDENT PROGRAMME:

Sponsorship and Support:

MinSouth is continuing to sponsor university students. The total support given to Students over the past 10 years now totals £30,000. This year MinSouth sponsored Rebecca Primiceri (Southampton) with a £1,000 award, and Alice Burdett (CSM) and Allistair Bagguley (RSM) with £500 each to assist through their undergraduate studies. In addition, prizes totaling £500 were awarded at the Young Persons' Lecture Competition.

Student Sections:

MinSouth continues to support Student Sections at several universities including the Camborne School of Mines and the Royal School of Mines. We continue to reach out to other institutions running appropriate courses with the aim of encouraging further student participation in our activities.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS:

A donation was made during the year to Ecton Mine Educational Trust for £500.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Society's Annual Statement of Accounts are summarised below:

	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total Income for the year to June 30 th	£7,175	£5,763	£10,739	£10,754
Total Expenditure for the year to June 30 th	£8,018	£2,490	£7,227	£5,702
Excess of income over expenditure	(£843)	£3,273	£3,512	£5,052
Total Cash held as of June 30 th	£25,724	£26,567	£23,293	£19,781

Summary of MinSouth Accounts 01/07/21. - 30/06/22				
2021/2022				
Opening Cash		Clydesdale		26,565.72
		Paypal		1.00
				26,566.72
Receipts	IoM3 funding	3,225.00		
	Sponsorship	3,800.00		
	Memberships	150.00		
	Merchandise	-		
	Dinner	-		
	Raffle	-		
	Other	-		
			7,175.00	
Payments	YPLC	500.00		
	Student IoM3 Membership	-		
	Sponsorship	3,000.00		
	Meeting Rooms	1,782.03		
	Items for Sale	-		
	Prestige Lecture	-		
	Honorariums	1,500.00		
	Website	1,100.90		
	Dinner	-		
	Misc	133.98		
	Charges	1.03		
			8,017.94	
Surplus/Deficit			-	842.94
				25,723.78
Closing Cash		Clydesdale		25,698.81
		Paypal		24.97
				25,723.78

The impact of the COVID pandemic continues to be evident both in receipts and expenditure when compared to previous years. On the receipts side, the funding from IoM3 was increased as the result of the grant formula being changed to reflect the use of more physical meetings. This effectively increased the grant received in the year to £3,225 compared with £1,538 the year before. On the expenditure side, the return to holding physical meetings in the latter half of the year meant that the catering and hire costs increased.

The move to holding “hybrid” meetings with both online and physical attendance prompted an investment in a laptop and associated software / hardware.

Again, there were no requests for travel sponsorship in the year and so for the second year this allowed for greater sponsorship of undergraduates with 3 students being supported.

Expenditure was £8,018 compared with £2,490 the previous year.

The net result was the Society saw decrease of funds for the year of £843.

Cash reserves stand at £25,723.78 as of 30th June 2022

SPECIAL THANKS:

The President wishes to express his sincere thanks to all Councillors for their support throughout the year, despite often hectic work schedules. Without the willing support of the councillors the post of President would have been a lot harder.

Finally, Council wishes incoming President Colin Morrish every success in his year of office.

Simon Kocher
President 2021 – 2022

September 2022.